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REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15 were previously cancelled and Claims 14, 21 and 26 have been amended herein to further clarify the invention. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims and remarks presented herein overcome the Examiner's rejections in the Final Office Action dated November 26, 2003 and the Advisory Action dated February 2, 2004 in the parent application. As such, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to allow pending Claims 14 and 16-31.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to FIG. 1 and FIG. 3 in the Final Office Action dated November 26, 2003. Pursuant to the Advisory Action dated February 2, 2004, the previously proposed drawing changes submitted by Applicant (in the Amendment After Final dated December 17, 2003) were approved by the Examiner. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the objection is hereby moot.

35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 14, 18-26 and 29-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5, 583, 861 ("Holden"). Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection and submits that Claims 14, 18-26 and 29-31 are not anticipated by Holden.

Holden describes an Asynchronous Transfer Mode ("ATM") switch, used in telecommunications systems which require real-time routing and switching of digitized cells of data. The sections of Holden highlighted by the Examiner in the Final Office Action (Holden, Col. 5, lines 58 – 61) describe a cell buffer in an ATM switching element that is used to temporarily store and queue data cells being transmitted through the switching element. In the Advisory Action, the Examiner points to Holden, Col. 5, lines 26-48 and suggests that this section teaches a switching device which connects two devices, allowing data transfer between these devices, while Col. 4, lines 38-55 and Col. 5, lines 1-15 teaches a means to transfer the data from the first device to the switching

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device and from the switching device to the second device. The Examiner therefore concludes that Holden discloses the claimed invention.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of Holden and the claimed invention. The invention, as claimed herein in amended independent Claims 14, 21 and 26, and dependant Claims 18-20, 22-25 and 29-31, is a unified clipboard memory for a peripheral sharing device. As claimed, a first user command causes data to be transferred from a first device to the clipboard, and a second user command causes the data to be transferred from the clipboard to a second device. In other words, a user may explicitly request data to be transferred from a first device to a memory in a switching device, and then explicitly have that data transferred from the memory to a second device.

This claimed system is in direct contrast to the ATM switch described in Holden wherein a user may request data transmitted from a first location to a second location, NOT to an intermediate switch. The fact that the data is transmitted through an ATM switch in Holden is a result of the network architecture and/or protocols, not in response to explicit user commands. Applicant therefore respectfully reiterates that Holden does not disclose explicitly transferring data from one device into the cell buffer of the ATM switch and/or explicitly transferring data from the cell buffer to a second device. Holden therefore does not anticipate Claims 14, 18-26 and 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection to the claims.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 16-17 and 27-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Holden in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,347,087 ("Ganesh"). Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection and submits that neither Holden nor Ganesh, alone or in combination, render Claims 16-17 and 27-28 unpatentable. Claims 16 – 17 are dependant on independent Claim 14 while Claims 27 – 28 are dependant on independent Claim 26. As previously described, Holden does not anticipate independent Claims 14 and 26, and/or any claims dependant on Claims 14 and 26 because Holden does not teach or suggest explicitly transferring data from one device into the cell buffer of the ATM switch and/or explicitly transferring data from the cell

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buffer to a second device. The addition of Ganesh to Holden also does not render independent claims 14 and 26, and dependant Claims 16-17 and 27-28, unpatentable. Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection to Claims 16-17 and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).
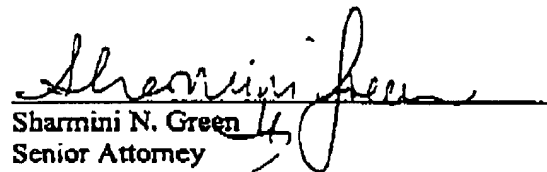
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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome and that pending Claims 14 and 16 – 31 are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to issue an early Notice of Allowance in this case. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 406-2362.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 25, 2004

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